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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In the Matter of the Application of:

John P. Huss Jr., et al.

Serial No.: 10/087,353

Filed: March 1, 2002

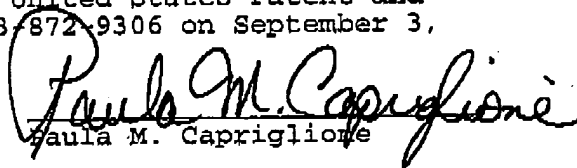
For: Pin Installation Guidance Apparatus, Methods and
Articles of Manufacture

Examiner: M. Trinh Group Art Unit: 3729

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Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and
Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9306 on September 3,
2004.


Paula M. Capriglione

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This communication responds to the Office Action
mailed on August 5, 2004. The Office has requested
Applicant to restrict the application to one of three
inventions, identified as follows:

- I. Claim 1, drawn to an article, classified in class
439, subclass 75.
- II. Claims 2-11, drawn to an apparatus, classified in
class 439, subclass 864.
- III. Claims 12-21, drawn to a method for installing
pin connectors, classified in class 29, subclass
884.

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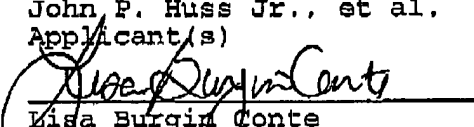
In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects the invention of Group II, claims 2-11, with traverse.

In the Office Action, the Examiner also asserts a subsequent restriction within Group II. In this action, Applicant has interpreted the Examiner's reference to claims 28-34 as a typographical error and that the Examiner intended to define Invention B as claims 9-11. Applicant submits that this subsequent Restriction Requirement is improper because claims 2-11 do not define two distinct inventions. Claims 2-11 are all drawn on an apparatus for installing pin connectors. Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Invention B does not have a separate utility such as the support means that simply provides a downward force to be applied to the pin array. In fact, the support means providing a downward force is an element of the apparatus for installing pin connectors that is also found in claim 2. Accordingly, claims 9-11 do not define an invention distinct from the invention in claims 2-8.

For the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the subsequent restriction as applied to Group II.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Huss Jr., et al.
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